

# THE OBSERVER



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## Year will focus on building

*"...the builder of all things is God." - Heb 3:4*

—by Heather Hagan—

Each school year Saint Joseph's College chooses a theme which is intended to set the tone for the academic year. The theme chosen for this school year is "...the builder of all things is God", a passage from Hebrews. This theme will manifest itself in many ways throughout the year.

The theme was chosen first and foremost to compliment the physical renovations and building occurring on campus. However the theme has implications beyond this. According to President Skip Shannon, the theme will have spiritual manifestations, as well.

"We need to ask ourselves 'What do we do to be God-like builders of our spiritual lives?'" Shannon stated. "Saint Joseph's College will work toward building the intellect and the spirit."

During the Academic Convocation, Provost David Chatten referred to this building as "Puma Labor" and stated that SJC students "are all card-carrying members of the Puma Labor Union."

For the present, however, it is the physical building occurring on campus that is garnering the most attention. The much talked about Master Plan is in full swing and students were welcomed back

to campus with a new apartment building, renovated Halas and Gallagher halls, a brand new fitness center, and other minor renovations and improvements. Next up for the Master Plan is the renovation of the Science Building which will occur next summer. According to Shannon, the budgets for the Halas/Gallagher projects plus the new fitness center ran slightly over their estimated costs, which will in turn impact the extent of the renovations on the Science Building. Shannon stated,

"Once we got started on Halas and Gallagher, we decided to go ahead and do it first class. I estimate that available monies for

projects next summer [including renovation of Science Hall] will be in the \$100,000 + range."

Implementation of the Master Plan will also be helped along by a \$1 million gift the college recently received. This substantial gift - the third largest in the history of the college - was made by John

Boler, the father of an SJC graduate. It is an unrestricted gift, meaning that it can be used at the college's discretion for whatever purposes they choose. Shannon stated that the gift will be used to "focus on building academic excellence."

Another area SJC is focusing on building is the service it provides to students. With this in mind, the Student Affairs department was recently re-structured in order to do just this.

"After consultation with the adminis-

trative staff, especially Provost Chatten, we decided that the best service to students could be delivered

through a re-structured student development office," explained President Shannon. He went on to admit that the restructuring was also partly due to his continuing concern with limited funding for the college.

The office of Student Development (formerly known as Student Affairs) is

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*- President Shannon*

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now no longer headed by Bill Manis, who has taken on the new position of Executive Director of External Programming. Instead, the office is headed by three Assistant Vice Presidents -- Stacey Lazenby, David Weed and Ernest Watson. Lazenby is primarily responsible for student activities and programming. Weed oversees counseling and career services and Watson supervises residence life and security among other duties. It is hoped that having a triad-like team of Vice President's will better service to students.

This is just one of many changes that greeted students when they returned to SJC and it is just one of many changes to come. As the school tiptoes into the new millenium, one thing is for certain: SJC is intently focused on building for the future.

## SJC gets political

Election year sparks revival of Young Democrat, College Republican groups on campus

—by Nick Schafer—

In this election year, like those in the past, political candidates fall under the watchful eye of the nation. From local politicians to the Presidential hopefuls, the public eye is turned toward the new policies and renewed promises of its favorite candidates.

The members of the Saint Joseph's College student body are no different than any other blue-blooded Americans who watch over the progress of the candidates. This year students will have a new way in which to express their political views and beliefs. As the new school year began, so did the life of the two new organizations on campus. This year marks the revival of the Young Democrat and College Republican clubs. The two organizations wish to create groups

that are sensitive to the political views of their respective parties. Additionally, they would like to give students an outlet to voice their political beliefs and gain experience on the campaign trail.

David Banks, treasurer of the Young Democrats commented, "The goal of our club is to basically provide a sort of support group and forum for other individuals on campus who would like the opportunity to discuss political events and/or would like the opportunity to actively participate in the political process through polling, meeting candidates, etc." Thus far, the Young Democrats have been working with the campaign of Greg Goodnight, the Democrat candidate for Fifth District Representative.

The College Republicans have a similar purpose and intend to give their members plenty of opportunities to be a part

of the political process. College Republican Chair Heather Hagan explained the agenda of her organization, "We will be participating in activities such as

voter registration drives, campaign literature distribution, phone banks and a David McIntosh for Governor rally at Rensselaer Central High School." The Youth for McIntosh coordinator has been in contact with the College Republicans and will be visiting the SJC campus to visit with the organization and discuss volunteer opportunities with the McIntosh campaign. (As a side note for any-



photo by Heather Hagan

**PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE GEORGE W. BUSH** exits a rally in Indianapolis. Two members of the College Republicans traveled to Indy to attend the rally.

one not from Indiana, McIntosh is the Republican candidate for governor).

Both organizations recently participated in the annual Little Cousin Jasper Parade, working with the local parties to support various local, state and federal candidates. This election year will hopefully be a powerful boost to these two revived clubs.



# Class of 2004 receives Saint Joe welcome

— by Bree Ma'Ayteh —

Another year, another set of freshmen. On Thursday, August 17, the graduating class of 2004 moved into the Saint Joseph College residence halls. This kicked off the first day of what would be a tiring, yet memorable week for the new Pumas.

The usual Orientation activities went on over the four-day introduction to the college: the Welcome Mass, financial aid meetings, the Freshmen Picnic at President Skip Shannon's house, the Scavenger Hunt, and the "Beach Party" at Lake Banet. In addition, there was also an out-

door movie playing in the Science Hall Parking lot, "Road Trip", and Monte Carlo night, where the new students had a chance to gamble. Also, on Sunday, church members in surrounding areas were invited to come and join in the mass that was held on campus. Marge McIlwain, Dean of Freshmen, said that this was a new touch added into the program "so that students could see that you didn't have to be Catholic in order to be active in the Church." The Puma Olympics was one of the more popular

events, allowing the students to compete against each other and to win prizes.

McIlwain has an optimistic feeling about this year's freshmen class. "I'm really excited. The number [of freshmen] is not as big as last year's, but I think that makes them more willing to try things and to discuss them in their [seminar] groups."

One area she would like to improve on is the number of activities for freshmen that go on in the residence halls. Floors like Justin 1st East, for ex-

ample, have a large number of freshmen living there. "This is where the freshmen really get a chance to get to know each other. There should be more things that they can do together as a class."

The freshmen banquet is scheduled to take place on Monday, September 25 at 6:30 in the ballroom, where the students will have dinner, view slides that were taken during orientation, and to receive prizes won during events like the Puma Olympics.



## ***FRESHMAN CLASS VITAL STATS:***

**NUMBER OF FRESHMEN:** 239

**AVERAGE AGE:** 16-17

**MOST POPULAR MAJORS:** Elementary education, management, psychology, computer science and criminal justice

**MOST POPULAR MINORS:** math/science, no minor required (due to group major), secondary education, management and journalism

**MOST POPULAR HOMESTATES:** IN, IL, OH, MI and WI

**MOST POULAR DENOMINATIONS:** Catholic, Christian, no claim, Methodist and Lutheran

*\*information provided by the registrar's office*



*photo by Stacey Lazenby*

**ORIENTATION TEAM MEMBERS** wait in Merlini Hall to greet the new freshmen class as they move in.

# "At the Movies With Don" Fall Movie Preview

— by Don Shanahan —

Alas, my senior year has come and "At the Movies with Don" returns for its swan song year. I never grow tired of talking movies with you and I thought I'd open this year with a fall movie preview of coming attractions from late September to Christmas. There are a too many movies to talk about, so I'll get right to the cream of the crop.

## ***Late September***

**Remember the Titans-** Two 60's Virginia high schools, one white and one black, are forced to integrate together for football. Denzel Washington is the coach on the hot seat.

**Almost Famous-** Ensemble coming-of-age drama from the director of *Say Anything...* and *Jerry Maguire* following a young groupie on the road with a 70's rock band.

**Beautiful-** Minnie Driver is a poor small town girl who is obsessed with the Miss America pageant in a comedy directed by actress Sally Field.

## ***October***

**Dr. T. & the Women-** Richard Gere is (get this) a gynecologist who has odd trouble in dating women, particularly co-star Helen Hunt. Hmm, I wonder why?

**Get Carter-** Sylvester Stallone, in his first movie in over 3 years, plays a mob thug who's in over his head.

**The Contender-** In this tense political drama, Jeff Bridges is the U.S. President who stands by his female vice president

(Joan Allen) when she's put on trial. Expect Oscar talk on this one.

**Lost Souls-** A freaky Winona Ryder must convince a young executive (Ben Chaplin) that he is the one to soon become the devil incarnate when he takes over on the eve of the millenium.

**Bedazzled-** From the director of *Analyze This*, the geeky Ben Fraser makes a deal with the devil (the sultry Elizabeth Hurley) to get the woman of his dreams.

**Meet the Parents-** From the director of *Austin Powers*, Ben Stiller spends a hilarious weekend getting grilled by his father-in-law-to-be, played by Robert De Niro.

**Bounce-** Romantic drama of a workaholic (Ben Affleck) drawn to a single widower (Gwenyth Paltrow) after her husband dies in a plane crash.

**Ladies Man-** "Saturday Night Live" resident pimp and radio sex advice guru Leon Phelps (Tim Meadows) gets his own movie. Expect a smorgasborg of fellow castmate cameos to run into Meadows.

**Pay it Forward-** Likely Oscar contender about a wise small town child with an Oscar-winning cast of Haley Joel Osment, Helen Hunt, and Kevin Spacey.

**Men of Honor-** Cuba Gooding, Jr. acts out the true story of the Navy's first black master diver who's put down by his superior officer (Robert De Niro).

**Lucky Numbers-** John Travolta and Lisa Kudrow are small town losers who try

to rig the town lottery in their favor in this dark comedy from the director of *You've Got Mail* and *Sleepless in Seattle*.

## ***November***

**How the Grinch Stole Christmas-** Blockbuster live action telling of the famous Dr. Seuss story with Jim Carrey as the Grinch.

**All the Pretty Horses-** 1900's western romance and love triangle starring Matt Damon and Penelope Cruz and directed by Billy Bob Thornton.

**Charlie's Angels-** Remake of the classic spy series with Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, and Lucy Liu as the angels and Bill Murray as Bosley.

**102 Dalmations-** Cheesy attempt at a sequel to Disney's live action remake. Glenn Close returns as Cruella DeVile.

**Red Planet-** Val Kilmer is the lead in a doomed Mars space mission.

**The Legend of Bagger Vance-** From director Robert Redford, WWI hero and struggling golfer Matt Damon gets help in more than just golf from a wise and mysterious caddy played by Will Smith.

**The Sixth Day-** In the not-to-distant future, Arnold Schwarzenegger plays a family man who has his life stolen from him by his own clone.

**Little Nicky-** Adam Sandler is the son of Satan in New York City (enough said).

**Unbreakable-** Bruce Willis reunites with Samuel L. Jackson and the man behind *The Sixth Sense* for a psychological thriller of a subway crash survivor.

## ***December***

**Castaway-** Like a modern day Robinson Crusoe, Tom Hanks is stranded on a deserted island after a devastating plane crash.

**What Women Want-** Mel Gibson comically plays a man with the ability to hear women's thoughts.

**Miss Congeniality-** Sandra Bullock is a FBI agent sent undercover as a beauty pageant contestant.

**Proof of Life-** Russell Crowe of *Gladiator* is a hostage negotiator who falls for the wife (Meg Ryan) of the man he is trying to free

**Vertical Limit-** From the director of *Goldeneye* and *The Mask of Zorro*, mountain climbers fight to come down from K2, the second highest mountain in the world.

**Family Man-** In a pseudo-modern *It's a Wonderful Life*, Nicolas Cage finds himself living an alternate life. Tea Leoni and Don Cheadle co-star.

**Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon-** This tale of 19th century Chinese outlaws and film fest award winner has been touted as the movie to revolutionize action films and stars Jet Li (*Romeo Must Die*) and Michelle Yeoh (Bond girl of *Tomorrow Never Dies*).

**Thirteen Days-** Kevin Costner is White House Chief of Staff Kenneth O'Donnell and Bruce Greenwood (*Double Jeopardy*) is President John F. Kennedy in this thrilling drama about the Cuban Missile Crisis.



# Pumas Experience Key Injuries in 30-11 Loss

by Anthony Cavaiani

It was a tough one for the Saint Joseph's College Football team to swallow on Saturday in a 30-11 defeat at the hands of the University of Saint Francis Fighting Saints. Not only did the Pumas lose their second straight game to open up the 2000 season, but they also suffered two key injuries- senior defensive tackle Keenan Massey and junior nose tackle Phil Lee. Massey was lost for the entire season when he broke his fibula and tore several ligaments in his ankle. Junior captain and Massey's partner alongside him on the defensive line, nose tackle Phil Lee, suffered a dislocated left shoulder. Lee is day-to-day, but is expected to play in the following game against the Shepherd College Rams.

The game opened up with the Pumas coming right out of the gate with their "power back" set. Senior running back Desmond Fletcher started out by getting three straight carries and picking up a pair of first downs. But the Fighting Saints caught on quick and made the Pumas punt on their opening possession. After a matching Saints punt, freshman kicker Adam Wyman kicked a 38-yard field goal to put the Pumas ahead, 3-0 at the 10:20 mark of the first quarter. The Saints answered, though, with strong running from senior fullback Dan Boyd, and got even with an 11 play, 40 yard drive that ended with kicker Dan Hudak booting a 38-yard field goal to not up the score, 3-3.

The Fighting Saints also struck a couple of times in the second quarter. With only 4:09 gone by, Saints running back Brady Wilkins scored on a 1-yard plunge into the end zone to cap a four play, 40 yard drive that started at the Puma 40-yard line. Hudak's PAT gave



Photo courtesy of Joe Dannehy

**SENIOR RICKY MCCRAY** scampers by the USF defense to score a two-point conversion.

the Saints the lead, 10-3. The Fighting Saints had great field position all day long. Then, at 8:47 after Wilkins touchdown, the Saints again started in Puma territory at their 45-yard line. They found the end zone once more with quarterback Erni Hendricks finding running back Jim Taft in there for a 13-yard pass with 1:46 remaining in the half. Hudak's extra point was blocked, and the Saints took a 16-3 lead with them into the locker room.

The defense did a good job, especially early in the second half when senior defensive end Gil Murillo got some penetration through the USF offensive line and tripped up running back Greg Lathon on a fourth and one from the Puma one-yard line. Unfortunately, the offense was again unable to move the ball productively. With 8:11 remaining in the third quarter, Lathon took the handoff and buried forward for a four-yard touchdown. Hudak's extra point was good and USF led, 23-3.

By the time the fourth quarter came, it was going to be tough for the Pumas

to get back into it. USF scored again on a 27-yard pass from Hendricks to Lathon on a quick two play, 25-yard drive that lasted only 49 seconds. After Hudak's kick, USF took a commanding 30-3 lead. Finally, with 7:07 remaining in the game, the Pumas put their best drive of the afternoon together. A drive that took 4:36 with 10 plays and 63 yards, ended with sophomore running back Karl Jackson scoring on a 10 yard run. An offside call against the Saints set up Rickey McCray's two-point conversion run to tally the final score at 30-11.

Freshman quarterback Lewis Scott led the offense with 73 yards rushing on 20 carries. McCray had two catches for 19 yards. Meanwhile, sophomore safety James Perkins had 13 tackles, and senior defensive end Gil Murillo had three tackles for loss and one sack to lead the Puma defensive attack.

The Pumas, under head coach Tom Riva, will be on the road next as they make th long bus ride to Shepherdstown, West Virginia to play the Shepherd College Rams.

## Reitz Era off to Fantastic Start

First year head volleyball coach Greg Reitz has his team is off to a strong 7-3 start. Anchored by talented, hungry underclassmen and led by experienced seniors, the team got a taste of the national competition with two season-opening tournaments.

The first trip was, by SJC Puma bus standards, absolute luxury—a plane trip to Pensacola, Florida to compete in the Argo Invitational where the ladies finished second. After defeating Mt. Olive, Mississippi for Women, and West Florida, the Lady Pumas suffered their sole loss in the title game against North Dakota State, #15 in the nation. Sophomore Julie Ryan was a double team leader with the team high tally in the kill (103) and block (9) department. Junior Kati Conlon created the scoring with 96 assists and freshman Beth Lipinski saved the day with a dig 47 times.

The second distant tournament took the team to Ashland University's Fall Classic in Ohio. This time around Coach Reitz's team went 3-2 defeating Fairmont State twice and North Carolina Central, good enough to garner a third place finish overall. Julie Ryan tore up the court again leading the team with 14 aces, 16 blocks, and 88 kills. "Kati Bug" Conlon posted an amazing 266 assists while senior Traci Wall pulled out the two-armed human shovel for 88 digs.

The final report comes from the Lady Puma's home opener from September 13. The team raised their record to 7-3 in decisive fashion beating Marian College in a straight three game win. Traci Wall was the one to take control this game smacking down 14 kills and scooping 22 digs. Julie Ryan added 10 kills of her own and Kati Conlon dazzled the assist category again adding 38.

## Lady Puma Tennis Up and Going

Like all fall sports, the Lady Puma tennis team is also off and rolling. SJC assistant men's basketball coach Ken Carrillo has joined the staff alongside long time coach John Barrientos, who is in his twentieth year at the helm. The ladies opened their season on a disappointing note with a 7-2 loss while visiting Lewis University on September 9. The aspiring team did have two bright spots with Jill Lebarge finishing #1 in the singles category and #1 in doubles with teammate Kristin Kinnaman. The team's second match was their home opener on September 12 against Olivet Nazarene University. This time around the Lady Pumas fell again, 7-2. Highlight performers were Kristin Kinnaman who placed #2 in singles and Kin Riccardo placed at #5. The Lady Puma tennis team now has a team record of 0-2.

## These Kids Have Legs!

If you've looked out the window to see a menacing pack of men and women running with a gait that made you sweat just sitting there, then you know why this title is appropriate. They're the SJC cross-country teams. Coached by Bill Massoels, the men and women's teams spend their training time tearing up the streets of Rensselaer.

Both teams recently opened their seasons at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. As a team, the men finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Jared Weller was the team's top performer with a 27:09 finishing time, good enough for a 15<sup>th</sup> place finish. Matt Stout was soon behind in 21<sup>st</sup> place with an official time of 27:21.

Meanwhile, the ladies finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. An outstanding 10<sup>th</sup> place finish from Maria Toledo, who beat the twenty-minute plateau with a 19:50 time, anchored that standing. Sarah Flory and Alexis Virtue added 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> place finishes, respectively.

## Coach's Corner: 10 Questions with Men's Soccer Coach Rob Burns

by Don Shanahan

Welcome to "Coach's Corner," a new feature to the *Observer* sports page this year. Every issue, the *Observer* sports staff is going to candidly interview one of our fine athletic coaches and staff members so you, the SJC community, can get to know them better. For our inaugural column, I sat down with Rob Burns, the head men's soccer coach. Rob is a former four year letterman for SJC men's soccer and a 2000 alumnus of SJC.

**What is it like making the transition from player to coach?**

When you see a player struggle, you have to give them direction. Unlike before as a player, I'm now tied up in terms of competitive spirit. I'm a coach now, not a player. That level of spirit has changed dramatically.

**Now that you are a coach instead of a player, how do you get pumped for a game?**

I'm driven by the fact that I hate to lose, period. I also keep in mind that this is my job, my profession and positive results are expected of me to do my job right.

**What was your proudest moment as a player?**

I am most proud that, for four straight years, I gave 100% every time. There was no game I walked away from telling myself that I didn't put my total effort into it.

**Are there any critics out there that say you're too young to coach college soccer? What do you say to these people?**

Yes, there are some. They're entitled to their own opinion, but in comparison, there are a lot of old, inexperienced college coaches out there too. Soccer is a sport that is constantly changing in rules, strategies, and styles of play. In today's up-to-date game, a young coach can fit right in and lead a team without a problem. Just watch my team and their effort. Effort is my team's #1 goal.

**Is there a person you turn to or call when you're having a rough day on the field?**

I'm fairly self-contained about dealing with stress. When it comes to coaching and professional advice, I turn to Camie Bechtold (head women's soccer coach) and Bill Massoels (SJC Athletic Director). They are experienced people who have been a great help.

**Being faculty now and a Rensselaer resident, what do you miss about those old Merlini days?**

I miss the unity of being around my friends, every day, every night, and every minute of my life at SJC.

**How is it coaching your brother (freshman Joe Burns)?**

At all times, I have to be a professional and Joe knows that too. Don't get me wrong, I want to strangle him sometimes, but he's mature about my position and respects the authority it carries. We're definitely making it work.

**The female soccer fans want to know something. Are those Dockers khakis you wear on gamedays?**

Actually, they're Abercrombie khakis, thank you.

**Finally, What is your favorite non-athletic park perk about being a coach and staff person now at SJC?**

Without a doubt, it's the closet full of free gear and equipment from Adidas.



Coach Rob Burns



## Puma Entertainment Quick Picks

### Movies opening in theaters September 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Urban Legends- The Final Cut:*

Likely senseless attempt at a horror movie sequel

*Chain of Fools:* Does the heist

comedy plot matter when I say that Salma Hayek is in it?

### Movies opening in theaters September 29<sup>th</sup>

*Remember the Titans:* Two Virginia high school football teams, one white and one black, are forced to integrate and work together under head coach Denzel Washington

### Upcoming TV Events and Specials

2000 Summer Olympics from Sydney, Australia (complete coverage on NBC)

NFL Football, every Sunday afternoon (Fox and CBS), Sunday night (ESPN), and Monday night (ABC)

WWF Unforgiven- Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> if you can somehow rig your TV to get pay-per-view in your dorm room

### CD releases coming Sep- tember 19<sup>th</sup>

Madonna: *Music*

Fastball: *The Harsh Light of Day*

Willie Nelson: *Milk Cow Blues*

### CD releases coming Sep- tember 26<sup>th</sup>

Juvenile: *Playaz of Da Game*

98 Degrees: *Revelation*

SheDaisy: *Brand New Year*

### On Video/DVD September 19<sup>th</sup>

*28 Days:* Raging alcoholic (Sandra Bullock) gets sent to rehab.

*High Fidelity:* John Cusack judges his love life failures through music at his Chicago record store.

*Ready to Rumble:* God-awful attempt at making a comedy out of wrestling, starring phone-man David Arquette.

### On Video/DVD Spetember 26<sup>th</sup>

*Final Destination:* Risk-taking teens mysteriously cheat death, time and time again.

*The Flintstones Viva Rock Vegas:* The title gives away its stupidity.

*Screwed:* Three total imbeciles (Norm MacDonald, Dave Chappelle, and Danny Devito) try to scheme money from a tough old lady.

*Where the Heart Is:* Ashley Judd and Natalie Portman star in this chick flick of a teen mother dealing with her responsibilities

Anyone who attended this year's Academic Convocation surely got the message loud and clear: This year, the Pumas are all about building for the future.

It's an interesting theme to have chosen, albeit an obvious one. Of course it refers in large part to the extensive physical renovations the campus is in the midst of. But this theme has other implications beyond just new buildings and renovated fa-

cilities.

If you think about it, college is all about building. It is about building yourself as a person, building your spirituality and base of knowledge, and ultimately it is about building the future (or at least laying a foundation for the future, to continue with the building metaphor).

This year on *The Observer* staff, we are also building. We have new editors,

old editors in new positions, and a new pool of freshman whose talents have yet to be tapped. We are also working with a new printing company which is printing the paper in a slightly different format than in years past. With these new resources, we hope to produce a paper that can play a small part in helping to build a better Saint Joseph's College. So get ready...construction is underway.

## Top 10 Things SJC Students Would Rather Do Than Attend Core Lecture



10. Be shot
9. Give themselves papercuts
8. Learn how to weave baskets with their toes
7. See how many toothpicks will fit up their noses at once
6. Convert to buddhism
5. Be shot twice
4. Bob for apples in the sewer
3. Watch a test pattern marathon on TV
2. Re-organize all of the SJC library books by color
1. Straighten Slinkys ©

## Expanding Horizons . . . and Wallets

—Mandy Meyers—

Ahh. Finally, we have returned to school. I'm glad to be back, even if I'm poorer than a church mouse after writing my savings away in one sad solitary check to fund my expansive education. And even in my overwhelming joy in returning to SJC, I realize how pathetic I am. Not only am I glad to be back, I realize in retrospect that I in fact awaited my return to school for the last four months. Why? Summer used to be looked forward to with such glee and childish fascination. We traded in school and teachers for dirt bikes, scrapped knees and swimming pools. What could be better?

Somewhere, somehow our lives lost those small sunny days of fun. Now we trade in school and professors for low

paying, hot factory jobs and unrewarding menial office positions. Where's the money? Um, I mean where's the rewarding aspect of all this hard work? "Go to college," they say. We're supposed to "use the tools we gather in college to build a better life." They told me, "You'll have better jobs, more money and more satisfaction in every aspect of your lives." I thought: College=money. I'm in college now, I'll make more money now. SHOW ME THE MONEY! People will know I'm in college and offer me better jobs. It's a magical aura. No one ever told me, "Hey, you'll be dirt poor for the next four years of your life!" or that I'd have to live like a hermit during the summers, slave overtime, and squirrel away every dime I make just so I can afford the high costs of enriching my brain. Now that's some valuable information. But I try to

look on my penny pinching days in a softer light, and wait patiently for the money and job offers to roll in.

And so I am reminded of an afternoon when a lady walked into my place of employment, looked me straight in the eyes and asked, "Do you hate your job?" Hmm. Did I despise it that much that it was apparent to everyone around me? Obviously my fake smile needed some work. I wouldn't say hate...but If I answered no, then I was admitting I was ok with my doofy summer job. So, after a moment of reflection I answered in the most objective way possible. "Well, I don't hate it, it's just depressing- I'm a college student and I'm working here." The lady laughed. "Well, it could be worse. You could be out of college and working here." Hmmm.

### *A man smoking alone*

There he is under the old street lamp,

Just a man smoking alone.

His cool black hat and smoked black glasses,

Just a man smoking alone.

He's sitting there on the edge of the square,

Just a man smoking alone.

He's waiting there on the edge of the square,

For someone to take him home, He's sitting and waiting and hanging around there,

Just a man smoking alone.

~Luke Nicholas

## ...?Did You Know?...

*Did you know that the fear of the number 13 is called triskaidekaphobia?*

In Norse mythology the 13th number led to the death of Baldur, the beloved of the gods. When the 12 gods gathered for a banquet in Valhalla, Loki gate-crashed the party, increasing the number to 13, which led to the death of Baldur.

It also happens that in Tarot cards, 13 is called "Death." But 13 is not unlucky for all. The Mayas worshipped the 13 gods of the upper world. The Aztecs climbed 13 steps to their sacred places. Buddhists paid homage to 13 Buddhas. In Jewish faith, God revealed Himself by 13 attributes of

bountiful mercy (Exodus 34: 6-7). The orthodox Jewish prayer book holds the Thirteen Principles of Faith. Jewish boys celebrate their Bar Mitzvah at age 13.

The "unlucky 13" is the reason why the thirteen loaves that bakers once supplied were never called by the number, but described as "a baker's dozen." The thirteenth loaf was regarded as a special bribe for the devil not to spoil the sale or the bread. The number 13 in Greek is triskaideka and the fear of the number 13 is called triskaidekaphobia.

-info by didyouknow.com